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ON PETITION

In re Application of :
Craig C. Hodges et al :
Application No. 10/696,959 :
Filed: October 30, 2003 :
Attorney Docket No. 00020.08CON :

This is a decision on the renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed September 30, 2004, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply in a timely manner to the non-final Office action mailed March 22, 2004, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. No extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on June 23, 2004.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 must be filed prior to the expiration of the maximum extendable period for reply. See In re Application of S., 8 USPQ2d 1630, 1631 (Comm'r Pats. 1988). Accordingly, since the \$490 extension of time submitted with the petition on September 30, 2004 was subsequent to the maximum extendable period for reply, this fee is unnecessary and will be credited to petitioner's deposit account.

Pursuant to petitioner's authorization, Deposit Account No. 50-2731 was charged \$665.00 for the petition to revive an unintentionally abandoned application.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Wan Laymon at (571) 272-3220.

This matter is being referred to Technology Center AU 1616.

Wan Laymon

Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy